GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1163
ANSWERED ON:30.07.2001
TAKING OF SEATER AIRCRAFT ON LEASE BY INDIAN AIRLINES
T.M. SELVAGANAPATHI

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Airlines has been asked to consider leasing of 50 seater aircraft for increasing the connectivity to smaller towns and tourist destinations;

(b) if so, the sectors on which the proposed 50 seater aircraft are intended to be operated;

(c) whether the Government have received any other proposal to operate flights to Salem; and

(d) if so, the action taken by the Government on the above proposal?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV)

(a) and (b): Yes, Sir. Alliance Air, a wholy owned subsidiary of Indian Airlines, have issued a global tender on 1st July, 2001 for dry lease-in of six ATR 42-500 aircraft. The last date for receipt of tender is 31st July, 2001. These aircraft are to be considered for deployment on the existing B 737/A-320 destinations in the North East as well as in the rest ofthe country i n order t o enhance connectivity and frequencies to smaller towns and tourist destinations on commercial considerations.

(c) and (d): Indian Airlines shall position 50 seater aircraft at Kolkata and Delhi due to maintenance and operational requirements. Of these, one aircraft each proposed to be positioned at Guwahati subsequently. Indian Airlines does not propose to airlink Salem at this stage since no 50 seater aircraft is proposed to be placed at Chennai. However, other scheduled airline operators are free to operate on any route/ places depending on their own commercial judgement subject to compliance with the route dispersal guidelines issued by the Government.